

**SEMINOLE COUNTY GOVERNMENT
AGENDA MEMORANDUM**

SUBJECT: Law Enforcement Trust Fund Expenditure for FY 2008/09 Good Student Incentive Program

DEPARTMENT: Sheriff's Office

DIVISION:

AUTHORIZED BY: Sharon Peters, Sabrina O'Bryan **CONTACT:** Penny J. Fleming **EXT:** 6617

MOTION/RECOMMENDATION:

Approval by the Seminole County Board of County Commissioners to contribute \$18,000.00 from the Sheriff's Law Enforcement Trust Fund to the "Take Stock in Children" Mentoring and Scholarship Program administered by The Foundation for Seminole County Public Schools, Inc. and \$750 to Seminole Community College on behalf of one selected student.

County-wide

Penny J. Fleming

BACKGROUND:

Since 1995, the Sheriff's Office has utilized Law Enforcement Trust Fund money to recognize one graduating student from each high school in Seminole County; a program referred to as the "Good Student Incentive Program". Beginning in FY 2002/03, the Sheriff's Office redefined the "Good Student Incentive Program" by joining the "Take Stock in Children" Mentoring and Scholarship Program administered by The Foundation for Seminole County Public Schools, Inc. This program provides deserving low income, at risk students in Seminole County with an opportunity to earn a full scholarship to a college or vocational school. Students are selected for the program in middle school and the student and their parents must sign a contract upon being selected for the program, agreeing to stay drug and crime free, maintain satisfactory grades and exhibit good behavior in school. Selected students are also assigned a mentor, a program volunteer, who meets with the child weekly from middle school through the completion of high school. The mentor becomes a tutor, role model and adviser to the student and helps build the child's foundation of basic values.

The "Take Stock in Children" program has been in place for several years and is considered a huge success. Funding for the program comes from both public and private sources. The Sheriff's Office supports this important program and the contribution of \$18,000 from the Law Enforcement Trust Fund. The donated funds represent \$2,000 towards the scholarship program for each of the nine Seminole County High Schools. The Sheriff's Office will also continue to fund \$750 towards one selected Seminole Community College student, said funds typically matched by the State or the college.

This request complies with Chapter 932.7055(4)(a), Florida State Statutes. The State/Local Forfeiture Fund Cash Balance prior to this commitment is: \$51,450.00.

STAFF RECOMMENDATION:

Staff recommends approval by the Seminole County Board of County Commissioners to contribute \$18,000.00 from the Sheriff's Law Enforcement Trust Fund to the Take Stock in Children" Mentoring and Scholarship Program administered by The Foundation for Seminole County Public Schools, Inc. and \$750 to Seminole Community College on behalf of one selected student.

Additionally Reviewed By: No additional reviews
